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have not been partaking in anything like a booze for a long time nor do I feel the least relish for it, even were I alongside of my good friend Ned I durst scarcely indulge for I could not bear it. I have not seen poor Dease these many years but I understand he has taken out his wife and several little ones to Canada, a step which I fear he will repent. Among civilized people neither himself nor her can be happy, to join in anything like civilized society with her is out of the question. What tribe she belongs to I cant say but think her a Flathead: I hope that he may be able to make himself comfortable. I could scrawl on much longer but don't like to have you taxed with double postage. May God bless you and success & prosperity attend you and yours is My Dear Ned the sincere wish of yours ever sincerely & affectionately

JOHN WORK.

Edwd. Ermatinger.

I am sure you will be glad to learn that I am in high spirits and in hopes of possessing the means in a few years of retiring in a few years to some civilized corner of the world with the pleasing anticipation of passing the few remaining years of my life free from the vexations, turmoils, privations, dangers and difficulties to which I have been so long subjected in this, to me long since unpleasing country.

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#### **Arrival of Steamer Beaver.**

Peter Skein Ogden, writing from Western Caledonia, tells his friend, John McLeod, that he is very well pleased with his post, and then comments on what advantages were expected from the newly arrived "Steam Boat."

Western Caledonia, Feb'y 25th, 1837

John McLeod, Esq'r  
My dear Sir,

Your last letter from St. Maurice River dated 16th March was very acceptable for after a silence of two years I began strongly to suspect you had forgotten me and consequently last year did not write you but this will again convince you I have no inclination to drop the correspondence & if it should happen you alone will be to blame myself the greatest loser. I am truly glad to learn you are so fortunate in your present quarters. I can form a very good idea what they must be so near Town and Settlements. It must indeed be even more than opposition of former days I can assure you I do not envy you your present birth although you do occasionally pay a visit to Christians after all I would not exchange my Dry Salmon with you but as you may think it is this year we have been far more fortunate in every respect than last as our profits will exceed ten thousand Pounds last year little more than seven and if I can only manage to keep it up to ten I shall be very well pleased & so ought

all interested for independent of the opposition on the Coast the Country is not so rich as it was a few years past however it still fully repays us for our trouble & I may also add there is not a District in the Country to equal it in a word I am well pleased with my present birth. Your old quarters T River under Blacks management still does well in fact the Columbia holds out well but the Furs are obtained at a far greater expense than formerly. When at Vancouver last summer I saw our Steam Boat and made a short trip in her. She cost fifteen thousand pounds but our commerce will soon repay us at all events will have a decided advantage over our opponents again last summer they the Americans had four ships there Work Manson Kennedy & Dunn are stationed there & Finlayson is also there during the summer. It is reported I know not how true the latter crosses the mountains in the spring, amongst the many good things their honours from Frenchurch Street sent us last summer was a Clergyman and with him his wife the Rev'd. Mr. Beaver a very appropriate name for the fur trade, also Mr. & Mrs. Coppindale to conduct the Farming Establishment & by the Snake country we had an assortment of Am. Missionarys the Rev. Mr. Spaulding & Lady two Mr. Lees & Mr. Shephard surely clergymen enough when the Indian population is now so reduced but this is not all there are also five more Gent. as follows 2 in quest of Flowers 2 killing all the Birds in the Columbia & 1 in quest of rocks and stones all these bucks came with letters from the President of the U. States and you know it would not be good policy not to treat them politely they are a perfect nuisance—long ere this you would have heard of David Douglas death he fell into a Bull Pit and was gored to death—I was I can assure you happy to hear of Mr. Prudents promotion but it is said must retire from the service. I presume he will go to Red River if I can form an opinion from what I hear that Colony is not in a very flourishing state and will I presume before many years die a natural death. What think you of rotations now a days Robertson five years and others ten each the former man may consider himself very fortunate but after all I expect in many years to hear of his being a very poor man as for John Clarke he will always make a show at little expense. Our friend Archy is at Colville living at his ease with little or nothing but his Farm to attend to, Frank E. with the Flat Heads Kittson Puget Sound, Yale F. Langley, T. McKay a young man by name of McLean, his father was killed in Red River you know him, are in the Snake country—Gingras at Okanagan that place still gives 15 Packs what think you of that—Mr. Rae Umqua and the Doctor, Cowie, Douglas, McLeod, Allen & B. McKenzie at Vancouver Pambrun I had almost forgot Walla Walla now you see how all are stationed & I verily believe all exert themselves for the general interest—with my kind regards to Charlotte

Believe me yrs truly

(Signed) PETER SKEIN OGDEN.